Shouja Sense

RDG - Red Data Girl

volume 2 chapter 6

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RDG

第6話 鳳城学園
CH.6 HOUJOU ACADEMY
NICE PLACE, ISN'T IT!
THERE ARE A LOT OF FOREIGN STUDENTS, TOO.
It will give you an international feel, Izumiko!
That's Mount Takao over there, isn't it?
MY, IT REALLY DOES! IT'S IN TOKYO, BUT SO CLOSE TO THE MOUNTAINS!
DADDY WOULD NEVER RECOMMEND A BAD SCHOOL.
MY, LONG TIME NO SEE,
MIYUKI-KUN!
PLUS, LOOK...!

Ch.6 Houjou Academy

RDG

Wa-miya-kun,
Wait!
This is...!
Where am I..?
SFX: SWOOSH
WA-MIYA-K...
Ah...!!

oops
WAMI-...!
MY, I SEE!
SFX: STIFF
IT'S STILL SPRING BREAK, BUT THERE ARE SOME STUDENTS LIKE SUZUHARA-SAN WHO'VE ARRIVED EARLY TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO THE SCHOOL.
DON'T WORRY.
I APOLOGIZE. SHE STILL ISN'T USED TO TOKYO.
MY, IZUMIKO-SAN MUST BE FEELING TIRED.
SORRY.
WENT TO VISIT HER HOMETOWN FOR SPRING BREAK, SO CURRENTLY ...
MISS DORM SUPERVISOR, YOU SAID SOUDA-SAN...
SHE'S IN NAGANO.
SFX: RUSTLE
IT'S TWO STUDENTS PER ROOM, APPARENTLY!
THE GIRL YOU'LL BE ROOMING WITH HAS BEEN HERE SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL.
isn't that great?
Dormitory of HOUJOU

DON'T WORRY!
I'M SURE YOU'LL GET USED TO IT QUICKLY!

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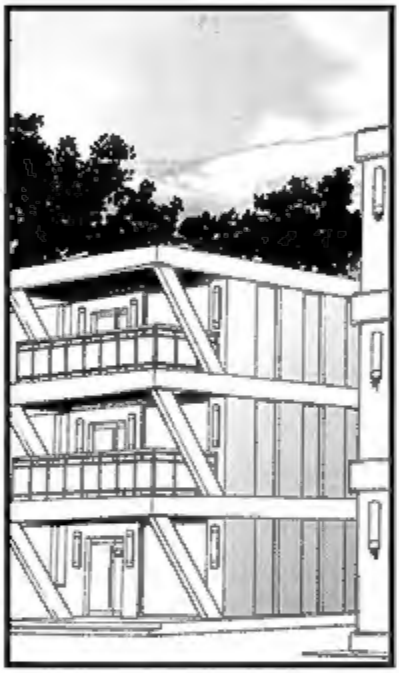


THE STUDENT DORM IS AT THE END.
AROUND THE SCHOOL YOU HAVE THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, CAFETERIA, LIBRARY...
A SEMINAR HALL A BIT FURTHER OUT...
MY, EVEN A RIDING GROUND.

Bunk beds...
Ah...
THE HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS ARE STILL NEW.

AND THE BUILDING IS NEW, BUT IT WAS BUILT IN AN OLDER, WESTERN STYLE.
SFX: RATTLE
I KIND OF WANT TO GO HOME...
WELL, EVEN I FEEL A BIT UNEASY LEAVING YOU HERE BY YOURSELF.
BUT IZUMIKO-SAN, YOU MUST TAKE THIS CHANCE TO LEAVE THE SHRINE AND LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN
HOW DO YOU FIND IT, IZUMIKO-SAN? COULD YOU LIVE HERE?
...
WHILE YOU STILL HAVE THE TIME.
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE GODDESS.
...SAWA-SAN,

BUT WHY
WILL NOBODY TELL ME ANY-THING?
Every time I've asked Grandpa and Sawa-san about the Goddess possessing me
they looked so pained.
AND MOTHER NEVER WANTS TO SEE ME.
Just what exactly is this Goddess...?
...THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID.
SHE MAY HAVE POSSESSED YOU ONCE WHEN YOU WERE IN TOKYO.
BUT RIGHT NOW THE GODDESS IS STILL WITH YUKARIKO-SAN.
HARDLY ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN AS LONG AS YUKARIKO-SAN STAYS STRONG.

I DON'T TELL YOU ANYTHING BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO FIND THE GODDESS ON YOUR OWN.
TELLING YOU HOW TO LIVE WITH THE GODDESS,
OR GIVING YOU FALSE IDEAS WITH MY SECOND-HAND KNOWLEDGE FROM YUKA-RIKO-SAN WOULD BE
HOWEVER, I WILL SAY ONE THING.
...My own way?
TO AVOID UNNEC-ESSARY TROUBLE,
YOU SHOULD NEVER EVEN UNDO YOUR BRAIDS!
DON'T EVER THINK OF CUTTING YOUR HAIR AGAIN!
Ah...
That's right...

I cut my bangs last year, and as a result...
the mountain priest Sagara-san
and Miyuki-kun got involved.
And then on the school trip I was
possessed by the Goddess
because of my bloodline.

And because I cut my hair, Wamiya-kun, the Goddess's Familiar, was able to manifest
In this world.
The Goddess can see the future.
I erased him.
But if he hadn't been there at the time...
I don't really understand the mountain priests or the Goddess.
Maybe that's why father enrolled me in this school...
Such commotion just from cutting my hair.

I HEARD YOU WENT TO MOUNT HAGURO AGAIN, MIYUKI-KUN.
I wouldn't be here right now...
MOUNTAIN PRIEST TRAINING IS GOOD AND ALL,
BUT INTERACTING WITH ANIMALS BIGGER THAN YOU IS ALSO TRAINING.
PEOPLE IN JAPAN USED TO BELIEVE THAT HERDERS HAD THE POWER TO CONNECT WITH THE GODS.

SFX SHAKE
NOTHING BEATS THE REAL THING.
Ahh
MIYUKI-KUN, YOU EVER CONSIDER JOINING THE EQUESTRIAN CLUB?
I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL JUST LOOKING AFTER THEM MYSELF, AFTER ALL.

There! I knew they'd be here!
BEFORE THAT, SHOULDN'T YOU GO GREET THE DIRECTOR ...
AH, I'M SICK OF THE PRESIDENT'S FACE ALREADY.

OH, SAWA-SAN! YOU'RE DONE WITH THE FORMA-L TIES, I TAKE IT?
Ah...
Dad!
Oh!
IF NOT FOR YOU, IZUMIKO PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE AGREED TO COME HERE!
GOTTA HAND IT TO YUKIMASA'S ONLY CHILD! I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
SFX TURN
Aah...
THANK YOU. SO, DAISEI-SAN, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO SHOW YOU NEXT?
Good, good
taller ...
I thought so earlier, but he somehow seems

ESPECIALLY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
MORNING SUZUHARA-SAN.
Uhuh.
IN FRONT OF IZUMIKO
It's nothing. Please let me know if there's anything else.
IN FRONT OF OTHERS
SORRY MIYUKI-KUN.
That's...
How he is...
Yeah, that's right...
Stupid daddy
SFX CHIRPING
Not all mountain priests... are like that, right?
PUFF
It's been one year already...
DAISEI-SAN, YOU WEREN'T DISCUSSING HORSE RACING, I HOPE!
O, OF COURSE NOT!
Stare
How... did I talk to him before?
Dad...
There are things I want to ask him.
Miyuki-kun said Dad is also in on it...
What are mountain priests?
Are you okay with you and mom never being together?
What were you doing when you went overseas?
Why...

WELL THEN, IZUMIKO!
Why did you and mom get married---
SFX VROOM
SEE YOU, THEN!
UM... YOU SEE, DAD...
I ASKED MIYUKI-KUN, SO HE'LL TEACH YOU A WHOLE BUNCH OF THINGS. COUNTING ON YOU, MIYUKI-KUN!
LEAVE IT TO ME
I'LL SEND YOU A PC LATER.
DON'T BE AFRAID, IZUMIKO. TAKE ON WHATEVER CHALLENGES COME YOUR WAY
AH, YEAH, AND WELL
SFX S GH
I couldn't ask him anything...
Oh
Hah

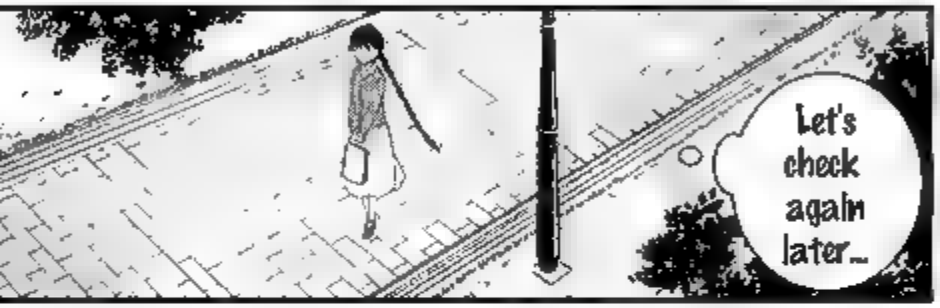
STUNNED
STILL GREW 1.4CM
GREW 6CM
YOU NEVER CHANGE, DO YOU, SUZUHARA?
OH? GOOD, THEN.
I EVEN WENT TO DISNEYLAND AND STUFF
Only because Sawa-san was with me, though.
N...
NOT AT ALL!
DOES EVERY LITTLE THING IN TOKYO STILL SCARE YOU?
Oh, that...
SUZUHARA.
I WILL N.
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T RUN BACK HOME THAT IS.
WHATEVER. IF YOU'RE IN TOKYO I MIGHT STILL SEE HER.
WELL, DON'T! MY MOM IS BUSY!
Ticked off
Good, we can talk normally.
GUESS SHE DIDN'T COME I HOPED TO SEE YUKARIKO-SAN

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW CAPABLE YOU ARE.
I WASN'T PLANNING TO...
ONCE THE NEW TERM STARTS,
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T REVEAL YOUR IDENTITY TO ANYONE.
YOU DIDN'T TAKE AN ENTRANCE EXAM, RIGHT?
BUT WHY?
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
...
BUT MANY STILL GET WEEDED OUT.
YES, IT'S AN ESCA-LATOR SCHOOL,
THE ACADEMIC LEVEL IS QUITE HIGH HERE.
VERY FEW ARE EXEMPT FROM THE EXAM.

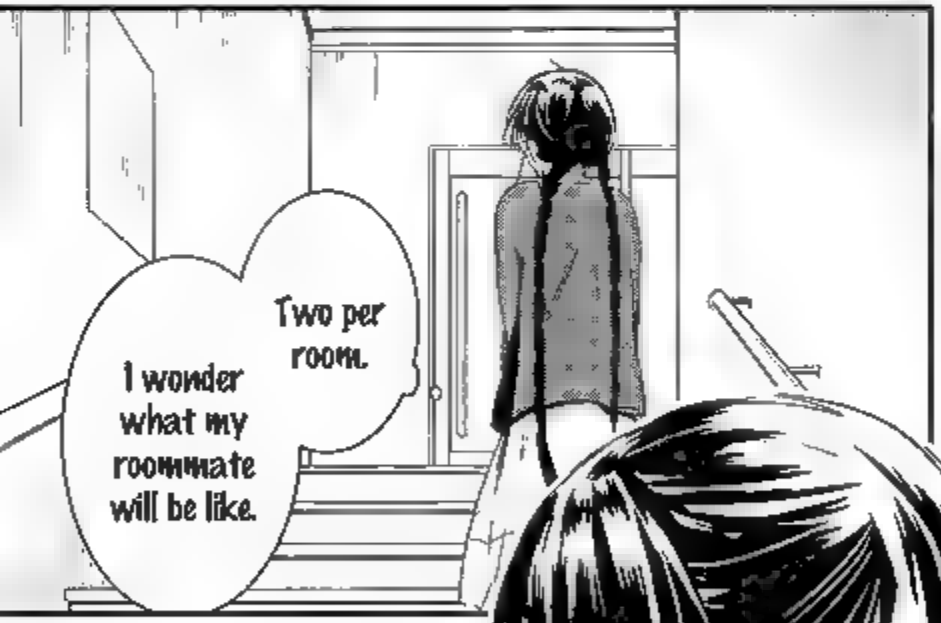
P/N AN ESCALATOR SCHOOL OFFERS ALL GRADES FROM ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL LEVELS WITHOUT REQUIRING ENTRANCE EXAMS

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
HOUJOU ACADEMY IS SPECIAL.
THERE IS SOMETHING HERE, BACKED BY THE LIKES OF
DAISEI-SAN AND YUKIMASA-SAN.

Kay, I'm off this way.
So child-ish...
WHAT WE STRIVE TO GRASP THROUGH TRAINING WAS ALREADY FIRMLY WITHIN YOUR HANDS FROM BIRTH. I DON'T FEEL LIKE TELLING YOU.
BE-SID-ES,
EH?
THAT'S TOP SECRET
LIKE WHERE
TELLING OTHERS ABOUT THE TRAIN-ING IS FORBIDDEN. THE FOUN-DER WILL PUNISH YOU IF YOU DO
THE MEANING OF THE TRAINING WHY DO MOUNTAIN PRIESTS TRAIN. WHAT POWER DO THEY SEEK
DID YOU FIGURE SOME-THING OUT?
OH RIGHT, WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT MOUNT HAGURO?
EH?
SUZUHARA, COME TO THE LIBRARY IF YOU'RE FREE TOMORROW
Hmmm
Was I... right to pick the bottom bunk...
WHY?
GOT ANYTHING ELSE TO DO?
MIYUKI-KUN!


Let's check again later...

It's still closed.


I wonder what my roommate will be like.
Two per room.

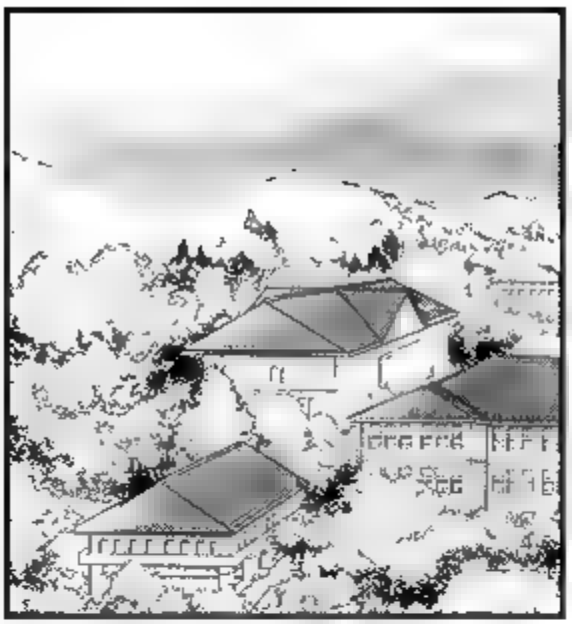
be uneasy.
...I must not...

SFX OPEN
SFX RUNNING
SFX BEEP
Not to mention,
It's still spring break. I'm the only one here...
AH!
SORRYYY!!

DIDN'T THINK ANYONE'D BE THERE!!
YOU OKAY?

EH?!
SO YOU'RE SUZUHARA-SAN!?

TEXT WAAA!
わあっ
CUUUTE!!
SO CUTE, IZUMIKO-CHAN!
I'M SUPER LUCKY WE'RE ROOMIES!
AH, DON'T BE CREEPED OUT!
MY FRIENDS ALSO TELL ME I ACT LIKE A GUY SOME-TIMES.
Though I think I'm just being honest?
Souda Mayura
I'M SOUDA MAYURA! PLEASED TO MEET YOU!



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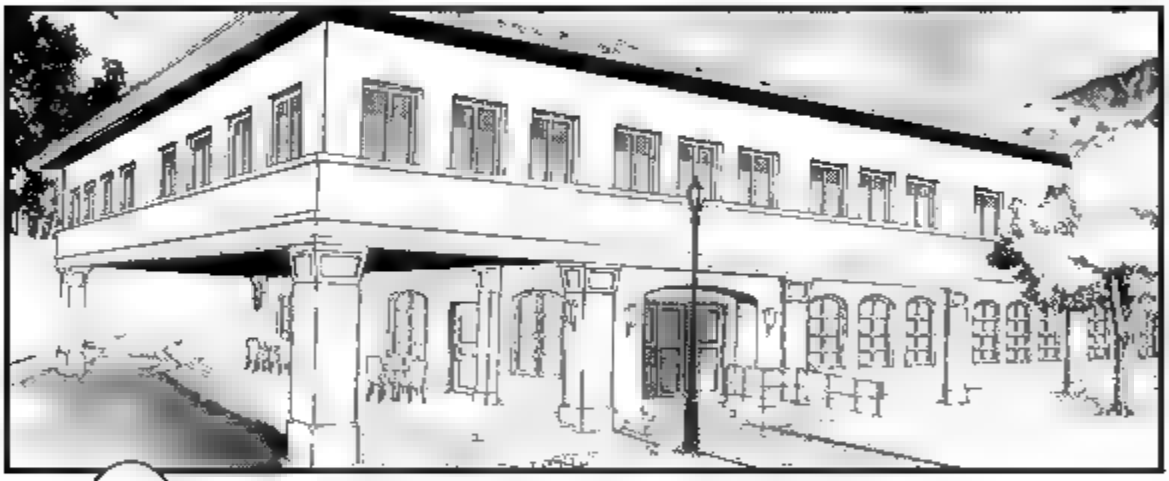
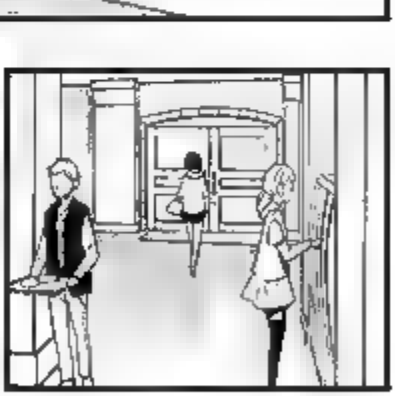
Souda Mayura
Suzuhara Izumiko



I TOLD HIM TO SHOW UP AT QUARTER-TO!
HE'S LATE!
LET'S GET STARTED WITHOUT HIM!
AHAA
SFX SLAM



SFX KYAHAHA

ONLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO USE THE CAFETERIA, RIGHT?
WE HAVEN'T REALLY STARTED YET IS THAT OKAY, I WONDER?
I'VE BEEN HERE A BUNCH OF TIMES AS A MIDDLE SCHOOLER.
I USED TO GO TO THE HIGH SCHOOL JAPANESE HISTORY CLUB,
AND WE'D COME HERE TO EAT WITH THE SENIORS.
MY DAD TEACHES AT A UNIVERSITY, AND THE CLUB FOUND OUT I'D BEEN AROUND PILES OF OLD DOCUMENTS
OOOH
WE'RE FROM THE COUNTRY-SIDE, SO YOU KNOW
An place is urban compared to home...
OH! TOP BUNK, BOTTOM BUNK, EITHER ONE IS FINE!
I'LL GIVE YOU SOME BED CURTAINS LATER, WANNA TRY THEM?
EH, ARE YOU SURE?
Adding privacy is a-okay!
I'M HAPPY!

SFX STEP ♯X
SFX GRIN
I GOT OUT LATE!
SORRY!
MY BROTHER
Huh? Somehow...
YOU'RE LATE, MANATSU!
We finished eating already
HE'S ALSO STARTING HIGH SCHOOL THIS SPRING
Ah! Then...
Twins...?
Hey MANATSU-
Souda Manatsu

I'M LATE PRECISELY BECAUSE I SHOWERED!
Really—!?
I CAN'T INTRODUCE SOMEONE SO DIRTY
YUCK. DID YOU EVEN SHOWER?
BINGO!
AND YOU'RE ALREADY SPENDING ALL YOUR TIME AT THE STABLES.
SCHOOL HASN'T EVEN STARTED YET
Whee—
Lunch!
SORRY, IZUMIKO-CHAN.
Can you wait with me a while longer?
MANATSU-KUN DIDN'T GO TO MIDDLE SCHOOL HERE?
MAYURA-SAN,
SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM?
THAT'S RIGHT, HE TRANSFERRED FROM NAGANO THANKS TO THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM.

throb
SO HE STAYED IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE AND ONLY I ENROLLED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
HE WANTED TO TAKE CARE OF HORSES.
BUT HE BECAME A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE STABLES THE MOMENT HE GOT HERE AND HASN'T STUDIED ONE BIT
HE WAS EXEMPT FROM THE EXAM
BECAUSE I'M HERE.

I WORRY ABOUT HIS FUTURE.
Exempt.
Very few are exempt from the exam.

TEXT ITADAK.MAASU!

I'LL DO WITHOUT, THANKS. THERE'S NO POINT FOR ME TO WORK HARD AT YOUR SPECIALTY
Girls with no squishy parts aren't cute you know
THEN TRY HORSE-RIDING IT CHANGES YOU.
Actually, when did you become so vain?
that you'd worry about your diet?!

SFX BAM

LISTEN, YOU, WHO DO YOU THINK IS TO BLAME?
How can you have a proper conversation when you're eating.
FAIRLY QUIET, AREN'T YOU?
UHM, SUZUHARA-SAN, RIGHT?

SFX CLATTER

I HATE STUDYING
giggle
Hey
I LOVE HORSES.
MY HORSEBACK ARCHERY INSTRUCTOR IS IN KAMAKURA, SO I CAME HERE.
AND I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO ENROLL IN MY SISTER'S SCHOOL.
SFX STARE
AH
UHM, SPECIAL TALENTS.. I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY.
I'M SUZUHARA IZUMIKO.
SFX STARE
REALLY?

IT SEEMED LIKE YOU MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, SUZUHARA. NICE AND SQUISHY
LISTEN, MANATSU, THAT'S SEXUAL HARASSMENT!
HE'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE, ISN'T HE, IZUMIKO-SAN?
NO, JUST A LOT OF THINGS I CAN'T DO.
SFX DASH
CAN I HAVE SEC-ONDS?
DO AS YOU WISH!

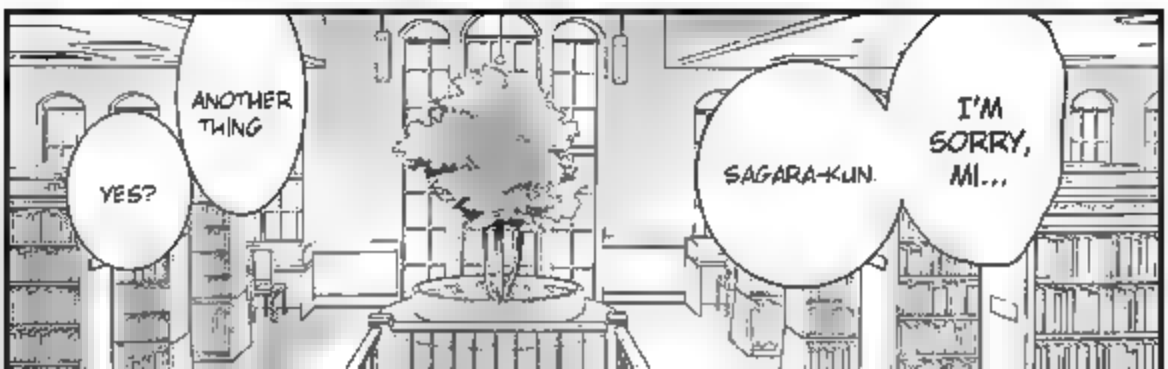
It's so nice... Having siblings.
I THOUGHT HE HAD A DIFFERENT AIR ABOUT HIM AT FIRST.
BUT YOU'RE TWINS AFTER ALL.
NO,
WE'RE NOT TWINS.
Eh---
MANATSU AND I ARE TRIPLETS.
THE THIRD ONE DIED WHEN WE WERE LITTLE
NOW IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.
uhm
IT'S NICE HAVING SO MANY SIBLINGS!
PF...
I'M AN ONLY CHILD
THAT'S YOUR REACTION...!?
IZUMIKO-SAN, ONCE AGAIN, I'M SO GLAD TO MEET YOU!
THE TWO OF US WILL GET ALONG WONDERFULLY!

MIYUKI-KUN, DO YOU KNOW MAYURA-SAN?
SHE'S SMART AND PRETTY; FAMOUS SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
THAT AND MORE
HAPPY TO HEAR YOU SEEM TO GET ALONG

THE THIRD ONE IS A BRO-THER?
REALLY?

There are things even Miyuki-kun doesn't know.
Smart and pretty...
ALSO,

DON'T CALL ME MIYUKI AT SCHOOL.
EH?
MY IDIOT FATHER CALLS ME THAT AND IT PISSES ME OFF.
I WAS A GUEST AT TAMAKURA SO I LET IT SLIDE.
I call him Yukimasa in return
Otherwise I don't allow it!


I'M SORRY, MI...
SAGARA-KUN.
ANOTHER THING
YES?

I'll teach you during spring break, though
ACTUALLY, START STUDYING, SUZUHARA.
I NEVER IMAGINED THIS DEVELOPMENT YOU'RE DORMMATES WITH SOUDA, SO LET HER HAVE A LOOK NEXT TIME
Wow!
YOU SUCK AT MATH, RIGHT?
That grin is weird
IS THE FIRST GIRL I'VE MET WITH BETTER GRADES THAN ME.
SOUDA MAYURA
物理111講
IF YOU WANT TO STAND OUT IN A BAD WAY THAT IS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT
I'll study
YOUR FACE SAYS IT ALL
In such a rush to study
Even though I wasn't
Looking up things...
I'M WILLING
I'LL PICK A REFERENCE BOOK FOR YOU IF YOU'RE WILLING
YOU'VE GOTTA STUDY WHILE OTHERS ARE NOT IF YOU WANT TO PULL AHEAD
ARE YOU ALWAYS STUDYING, SAGARA-KUN?
NOT ALWAYS. I ALSO TRAIN.
IF SHE'S AHEAD OF YOU,
IS SOUDA-SAN NUMBER ONE?

I THOUGHT I SAW A NEW FACE.

OH MY, AM I NTERRUPT-ING?

NO---

HE IS.

SAGARA, IS SHE A RELATIVE? FROM THE SAME HOME TOWN?
I SEE YOU ARE SITTING TOGETHER.

THIS IS TAKAYANAGI.
SHE'S MY DAD'S ACQUAINTANCE.
SUZUHARA IZUMIKO.

YOU'VE GOT FAIRLY LONG HAIR.

WELL THEN, SEE YOU IN THE NEW TERM.

IN THE SAME SCHOOL YEAR.
Takayanagi Ichijou

I knew it...!
HE'S REAL, THOUGH.
A NOBLE FACE MAYBE
YOU'RE THINKING HE LOOKED LIKE WAMIYA, RIGHT?
HE...
I CAN'T STAND
HIS FACE.

CLOSING TIME
TEXT
AH!?
I DON'T EXPECT MUCH. JUST TRY NOT TO DROOL ON THE LIBRARY BOOKS.
Forget it!
S... SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO.
didn't get much sleep yesterday.
shake
ZZZ
SO SOLIDA MANATSU WAS ALSO EXEMPTED FROM THE EXAM.
WHAT IS THE SCHOOL SCHEMING...?
WE MIGHT GET A GLIMPSE ..
AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY.
THEY WEED OUT STUDENTS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL, YET BRING IN STUDENTS WITHOUT EXAMINATION

SFX PITTER PATTER
ハアアア
CHIRP
CHIRP
SFX SWISH
THE TIME?
LOOK
LOOK
EH!? ISN'T THIS A BIT SHORT?
GOOD! STILL SOME TIME LEFT!

YES! I'M TRYING A NEW LOOK!
SFX RUSTLE
YOU LET YOUR HAIR DOWN?
IS IT WEIRD?
NOT AT ALL! IT'S VERY LADY-LIKE!
THE INSIDE DOESN'T CHANGE THAT EASILY, THOUGH.
WHEN MANATSU AND I WERE APART, IT'S LIKE I WAS ACTING OUT HIS PART.
AND YOU SAW HIM, HE'S GOTTEN MANLY AND ALWAYS DOES HIS OWN THING.

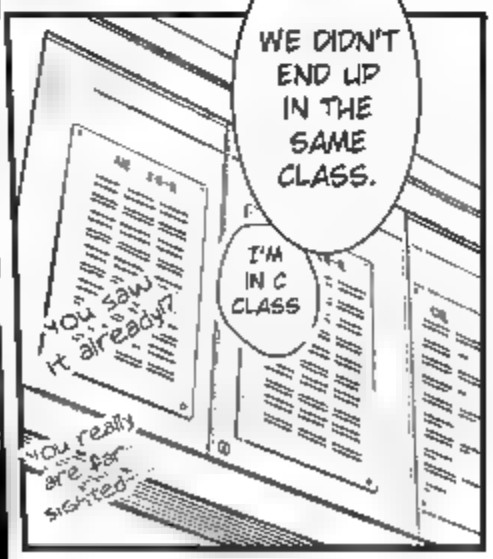
SO I'VE GOTTA PRETTY UP IN HIGH SCHOOL!
HMM...
WHAT ELSE..
SFX CLATTER

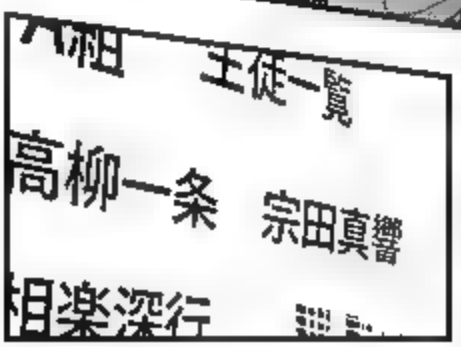
NO, I'M STIGMATIC
AND A BIT FAR-SIGHTED
DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS ACTUALLY A THING.
EH--- SO THEY'RE JUST FOR STYLE?
THESE GLASSES ARE MORE LIKE A CHARM MY MOTHER GAVE ME
I CAN STILL SEE WITHOUT THEM.
YOU'LL SWITCH TO CONTACTS?
They don't go well with the uniform
MAYBE I SHOULD STOP WEARING GLASSES.
THOSE GLASSES DON'T SUIT YOU VERY MUCH.
I THOUGHT IT WAS A SHAME.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,
I WAS A SECRET ADMIRER OF YOUR SLEEPING FACE.
TEXT EH?

LET'S GO!
THE TWO OF US ARE
TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF IN HIGH SCHOOL!

AH! BUT LOOK, IZUMIKO-CHAN.
SO I'M IN A CLASS.

SFX CHATTER


WE DIDN'T END UP IN THE SAME CLASS.
I'M IN C CLASS
You saw it already?
You really are far sighted.


生徒一覧
高柳一条 宗田真響
相楽深行

MANATSU IS WITH YOU!

LET'S PICK THE SAME COURSES!
THERE ARE A LOT OF ELECTIVES AT HOUJOU
MAYBE IT'S BASED ON ACADEMICS?
WE'RE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES, BUT STUDENTS STILL MIX
Heeey!
HI! SO, A CLASS!?
Heeey!
Sheesh

Y... YEAH
AH~
SFX STARTLED
YOUR DEFECTS COME OUT WHEN I'M AROUND.
GOOD FOR YOU!
IZUMIKO-CHAN,
WILL YOU WATCH OUT FOR HIM SO HE DOESN'T STAND OUT TOO MUCH IN CLASS?
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
SUZUHARA-SAN, YOU'RE NOT WEARING GLASSES?
YOU'RE REALLY CUTE~
AND I CHANGED MY HAIRSTYLE, FOR YOUR INFORMATION.
OH IT'S TRUE! DIDN'T NOTICE AT ALL!
BUT THE INSIDE DOESN'T CHANGE, RIGHT?
Why you little!

STANDING IN FOR THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT,
THE FRESHMAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL GIVE THE OPENING ADDRESS.
FIRST YEAR TAKAYANAGI ICHIJOU.
TEXT: STAND UP--
SFX: CLATTER
I HEAR HE'S A CODDLED RICH BRAT FROM KYOTO.
SO THAT'S HIM--- THE TOP STUDENT FOR THREE YEARS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I HEARD HE'LL BE RUNNING FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

ON THIS SERENE SPRING DAY---
Takayanagi Ichijou-kun
He's still a first year, but everyone already remembers his name...
He resembles Wamiya-kun, but they're polar opposites.
HERE IN HOUJOU ACADEMY, WE...
SFX: REALIZE
SFX: THUMP 3X

SFX: SHUDDER
What...
is this?
Something...
is here...!!
CH. 6 END

RUG